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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 AMMAN 003047

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SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR CDR, CENTCOM GENERAL FRANKS' MAY 24-25, 2003 VISIT TO JORDAN

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR EDWARD W. GNEHM FOR REASONS 1.5 (A, B AND D).

1. (C) GENERAL FRANKS: WELCOME BACK TO JORDAN. YOUR VISIT PROVIDES AN OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE LEADERSHIP OF JORDAN FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM AND THEIR CONTINUED EFFORT IN AFGHANISTAN, CONGRATULATE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS ON HIS RECENT PROMOTION TO GENERAL, AND TO DISCUSS KEY ISSUES REGARDING THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE REGION. I AM SURE YOUR DISCUSSIONS WILL HELP ENSURE THE KINGDOM,S CONTINUED SUPPORT IN THE WAR ON TERRORISM AND OTHER REGIONAL EVENTS.

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SUMMARY  
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2. (C) EMBASSY AMMAN AND YOUR JORDANIAN HOSTS LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT TO AMMAN. DURING YOUR VISIT, YOU WILL MEET AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS KEY ISSUES WITH THE KING. AS YOU KNOW YOUR VISIT COINCIDES WITH THE GOJ,S CELEBRATION OF ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1946. THERE IS GREAT SENSE OF RELIEF THAT THE WAR IN IRAQ WAS FAST AND EFFECTIVE. HOWEVER, YOU WILL BE ARRIVING AT A TIME OF CONTINUED DOMESTIC FRUSTRATION WITH THE SLOWNESS OF THE REBUILDING PROCESS AND THE ONGOING VIOLENCE IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. MOST JORDANIANS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF PALESTINIAN ORIGIN, REMAIN ACCUTELY CONCERNED ABOUT ISRAEL,S HARSH TREATMENT OF PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS AND ITS PERCEIVED LACK OF COMMITMENT TO THE US-PROVIDED ROAD MAP. HOWEVER, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JORDAN CONTINUES TO BE A CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE ONE -- POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY, MILITARILY AND ON INTELLIGENCE ISSUES. JORDAN HAS LONG BEEN A VOICE OF REASON IN THE MIDDLE EAST, A SIGNIFICANT MILITARY PARTNER, AND AN IMPORTANT AND RELIABLE TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRY IN MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD. ONE OF JORDAN,S UN PEACEKEEPERS WAS SAVAGELY KILLED IN THE CONGO THIS WEEK. JORDAN,S &FRONTLINE8 EFFORTS AS A COALITION PARTNER IN THE WAR AGAINST TERROR AND IN REBUILDING IRAQ CONTINUE.  
END SUMMARY.

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ISSUES THAT WILL ARISE  
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3. (S/NF) THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MAY ARISE DURING YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH HM AND HIS JAF LEADERSHIP.

- (C) AS ALWAYS, JORDANANIAN LEADERS AND PEOPLE ARE GRACIOUS HOSTS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE U.S. THEY WILL AFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO AN ONGOING PARTNERSHIP WITH US AND WILL THANK YOU FOR AMERICA,S SUPPORT TO JORDAN.

- (S) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE CONCERNS. JORDAN IS CONCERNED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR IRAQ MAY NOT BE ADEQUATE. RESOURCE SHORTAGES SUCH AS FUEL, WATER, AND SHELTER FOR IDPS ARE WATCHED WITH CONCERN BY THE KING,S CITIZENS.

- (S) TIMING OF CROSS-BORDER ACTIVITIES. JORDAN AGAIN IS CONCERNED THAT CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS ARE TAKING PLACE FROM SYRIA WITH ROCKETS, EXPLOSIVES, AND WEAPONS BEING SENT ACROSS. THEY WILL SEEK AN ACCELERATION OF THE PLANNED \$75 MILLION BORDER SECURITY AID PACKAGE.

- (S) USG REQUESTS OF JORDAN WITH REGARDS TO POST-WAR ACTIVITIES. JORDAN WOULD WELCOME ANY INSIGHTS INTO POSSIBLE ROLES THAT THEY CAN PLAY IN POST-WAR IRAQ. THEY HAVE REQUESTED TO BE ALLOWED TO SUPPORT THE EFFORT IN DEMINING, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, TRANSPORTATION, INTERPRETERS, MILITARY AND POLICE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING, AND MEDICAL SUPPORT IN IRAQ. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY REMAIN CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF IRAQI OIL SUPPLIES TO JORDAN.

- (C) THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN DESIRES TO RESUME THE ROBUST EXERCISE SCHEDULE THAT THEY HAVE ENJOYED WITH ALL OF THE CENTCOM COMPONENT COMMANDS. ONGOING AND SCHEDULED PLANNING CONFERENCES ARE A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THEY PLAN TO APPLY FOR FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE ACTIVITIES. IT IS LIKELY THAT THEY WILL DISCUSS REGIONAL TRAINING EVENTS FOR SOF, F-16S, AND DEMINING AND

PEACEKEEPING. THEY MAY ALSO RAISE THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING FUTURE BRIGHT STAR EXERCISES IN JORDAN.

- (S) THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN, WHILE EAGER TO INVOLVE ITSELF WITH THE REBUILDING OPERATION IN IRAQ, ALSO REMAINS FOCUSED ON ITS OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN. THEY WILL ROTATE FORCES IN THAT COUNTRY STARTING ON 22 MAY. THEY WILL BE INTERESTED IN YOUR VISION FOR THEIR PRESENCE THERE. THEY ARE INTERESTED ALSO IN SUPPLYING WEAPONS REFURBISHED IN JORDAN TO THE AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY IF THE USG WILL SUPPORT SUCH AN EFFORT. THEY ARE SIMILARLY INTERESTED IN US SUPPORT FOR TRAINING THE ANA IN A WIDE RANGE OF SKILLS WITH USG SUPPORT.

- (C) THEY WILL BE VERY INTERESTED IN ANY LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE RECENT IRAQ WAR.

- (S) THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP WILL EXPRESS THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE GWOT. THEY FEAR JORDAN IS LIKELY TO BE ONE OF THE NEXT TARGET IN THE LATEST SERIES OF AL-QAEDA ATTACKS AND ARE TAKING ENERGETIC STEPS TO COUNTER THE POTENTIAL THREAT. THEY WILL SEEK ROBUST CT TRAINING AND INTELLIGENCE SHARING.

14. (C) THE JTF-W COMMANDER WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE OF COALITION AND 1003V ACTIONS AS PART OF THE SCHEDULED COUNTRY TEAM MEETING THE MORNING OF 25 MAY.

15. (C) AGAIN, I LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK TO JORDAN. BEST REGARDS.

GNEHM